

10 Signs Of Scrupulous Piety (Al-Wara')

Imaam As-Samarqandi
Tanbeeh al-Ghafilin 2:518-519

The sign of scrupulous piety (al-wara') is considering ten things mandatory upon oneself:

1. Guarding the tongue from backbiting due to the saying of the Most High: **"Do not backbite one another."** [49:12]
2. Shunning suspicion due to the saying of the Most High: **"Avoid much [negative] assumption. Indeed, some assumption is sin."** [49:12] And also due to the saying of the Messenger (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam), "Avoid suspicion, for airing suspicion is the most lying form of speech." [Musnad Ahmad]
3. Shunning mockery due to the saying of the Most High: **"Let not a people ridicule another people; perhaps they may be better than them."** [49:11]
4. Lowering gaze from forbidden things due to the saying of the Most High: **"Tell the believing men to lower their gaze."** [24:30]
5. Truthfulness of the tongue due to the saying of the Most High: **"And when you speak, be just."** [6:152]
6. Recognising the blessings of Allaah, the Most High, upon oneself in order to avoid conceitedness due to the saying of the Most High: **"Rather, Allaah has conferred favour upon you that He has guided you to the faith, if you should be truthful."** [49:17]
7. Spending one's wealth on good rather than bad things, due to the saying of the most High: **"And those who, when they spend, do so not excessively or sparingly."** [25:67] Meaning, they do not spend on sinfulness and do not prevent obedience, **"but are ever, between that, [justly] moderate."** [25:67]
8. Not seeking haughtiness and pride for oneself, due to the saying of the Most High: **"That home of the Hereafter We assign to those who do not desire exaltedness upon the earth or corruption."** [28:83]
9. Maintaining with care the five prayers on time, with proper bowing and prostration, due to the saying of the Most High: **"Maintain with care the [obligatory] prayers and [in particular] the middle [`asr] prayer and stand before Allah, devoutly obedient."** [2:238]
10. Steadfastness upon the way of Sunnah and Jama`ah, due to the saying of the Most High: **"And, this is My Path, which is straight, so follow it; and do not follow [other] ways, for you will be separated from His way. This has He instructed you that you may become righteous."** [6:153]